



Ovingham Level Crossing Removal

Frequently Asked Questions

The Australian and South Australian governments have jointly (50:50) funded \$231 million towards the removal of the level crossing at Torrens Road, Ovingham by raising the road over the railway line.

The crossing is located near the fringe of the City of Adelaide on Torrens Road at Ovingham. The junction of Torrens Road and Churchill Road is approximately 100 metres from the level crossing. Torrens Road crosses both the interstate railway line and the Gawler passenger railway line.

An average of 21,300 vehicles pass through this level crossing each day. The boom gates at Torrens Road, Ovingham are down for approximately 22 per cent of the time during the combined AM morning and afternoon peak periods.

Why is the Ovingham level crossing being removed?

Removing the Ovingham level crossing by building a road bridge over the rail line will:

- Improve safety for all road users (motorists, cyclists and pedestrians)
- Cut travel times for motorists
- Increase freight productivity
- Improve reliability for buses on Torrens Road
- Improve walkability by creation of new community open space under and adjacent to the new road bridge.

The factsheet *Understanding the Different Design Options* on the project website provides more information about each of the options considered during the planning phase.

How much will the project cost?

The approved budget for the Ovingham Level Crossing Removal Project is \$231 million.

What stage is the project at and when will construction start?

Detailed design for the project has started. The draft concept design was released to the public in July 2020 and has been refined based on feedback received from residents, businesses and other key stakeholders. The updated design is now available for public viewing on our project website.

Following finalisation of the detailed design, major works will start in the second quarter of 2021.

In early 2021 some early works will be undertaken including demolition of some buildings and establishment of a site office on Drayton Street, site compound set up and utility investigations and relocations.

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Project completion is anticipated in 2023.

What community engagement has been undertaken to date?

Planning Phase:

Community engagement activities were undertaken during the planning phase of the project during late 2019 / early 2020 to help inform the selection of a preferred design solution, from four options identified as part of the planning study (refer to the factsheet '*Understanding the different design options*').

During the planning phase, the project team hosted five community information sessions (which were attended by over 150 people), and interviewed key businesses and residents within the project area. In addition, 366 survey responses were received during the planning phase, mostly from local residents and business owners.

This feedback was used, along with technical advice, as part of an options assessment process to inform the selection of a preferred design solution, which was to raise the road over the railway line.

Concept Design:

A second round of community engagement activities were undertaken during the development of an initial concept design, which was made publicly available in July 2020. During August 2020, four community information sessions were hosted to discuss the initial concept design that were attended by over 135 local residents.

An online engagement hub was also launched for the community to access project information and submit questions and feedback to the project team, via an online map and virtual information sessions. These online tools have ensured that engagement with the community has continued during COVID-19 restrictions.

The project team has also met with the Cities of Charles Sturt and Prospect, Kaurna Elders, local schools, businesses and residents associations to discuss the concept design and seek further feedback.

Finalising the Design:

The concept design has been updated and refined based on feedback received and is now available for public viewing on our website: www.DIT.sa.gov.au/OvinghamLXing


It is anticipated that the design will be finalised in early 2021.

You can read how community engagement has fed into the design in the factsheet '*What we Heard*' on the project website.

How will traffic be managed during construction?

Once the design is finalised, the construction program will be developed to minimise traffic impacts. Whilst it is likely there will be some traffic impacts, much of the major bridgeworks will be undertaken offline so as to minimise the traffic impacts on Torrens Road.

When there are temporary impacts to motorists, pedestrians and cyclists, road users will be notified and signs and traffic controllers will be in place for safety. Road users will also be notified early of any possible impacts to access.





How will noise be managed during construction?

Construction noise cannot be eliminated. However, works will be managed to minimise disturbance to nearby properties by using methods such as:

- Low noise reversing 'squawkers' instead of traditional beepers
- Minimising the number of vehicle movements next to private properties
- Regularly testing equipment to minimise operation noise
- Noise monitoring

How will vibrations be managed during construction?

The Department has engaged independent structural specialists to undertake property condition surveys for properties where vibrations may be felt as a result of construction activities. This information will allow us to identify and assess any unexpected changes in the structural condition of these properties.

This is a precautionary measure and it is not expected that there will be any negative impact on surrounding properties.

Will there be any impacts to passenger rail services?

During construction there will be some occasions when temporary closures of the Gawler Railway Line will be required (i.e. when the bridge beams are being lifted in). Advance notice will be provided when this occurs, and substitute buses will be in place replicating the level of service and frequency of train services as closely as possible.

Will Ovingham Railway Station be upgraded as part of this project?

Upgrading Ovingham Railway Station is not included as part of this project.

What will be located in the community open space area?


The Department continues to engage with the local community and councils and initial feedback has been integrated into the design. Community engagement in relation to public art, landscaping and other opportunities will continue as project construction starts.

Will any property be purchased as part of the project?

Limiting acquisitions was a key consideration of selecting the road over option. This option requires voluntary acquisition of disused or underutilised commercial premises only.

Does the project impact pedestrian access to local businesses?

Pedestrian movements and accessibility to local business will be a key consideration as we develop the construction schedule for the project to ensure disruption to local businesses is kept to a minimum.





Ovingham Level Crossing Removal Project Next Steps

Activity	Timing
Early investigation works	November/ December 2020
Demolition of Drayton Street commercial properties for site office establishment	January/ February 2021
Enabling works including site establishment, fencing, median removals, service relocations and site clearance	January 2021- May 2021
First traffic switch and start of piling works for the bridge	Mid 2021
Project completion	Early 2023

Further community consultation will be undertaken during the construction process to refine community aspects of the design for the project.

To register for project updates or to find out more information, please visit: www.DIT.sa.gov.au/OvinghamLXing

If you have any questions or would like to speak to a member of the project team, please call 1300 794 880 or email: dit.communityrelations@sa.gov.au.

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